5

10

15

20

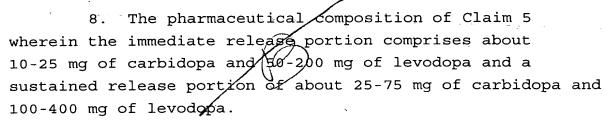
25

30

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1. A method for treating Parkinson's disease using an oral dosage formulation comprising an immediate release layer of 10-25 mg of carbidopa and 50-200 mg of levodopa and a sustained release layer of 25-75 mg of carbidopa and 100-400 mg of levodopa whereby, following administration, carbidopa and levodopa are available for rapid and sustained therapeutic action.
- 2. A method as claimed in Claim 1 characterized by a sustained release core depot of carbidopa-levodopa overcoated by an immediate release layer of carbidopa-levodopa.
- 3. A method as claimed in Claim 1 characterized by a multilayer tablet comprising at least one layer of sustained release carbidopa-levodopa adjacent to at least one layer of immediate release carbidopa-levodopa.
- 4. A method of Claim 3 wherein the layers in the tablet are separated by an excipient layer.
- form for treating Parkinson's disease comprising a combination of an immediate release portion of a combination of carbidopa and levodopa and a sustained release portion of a combination of carbidopa and levodopa and levodopa, the composition effective in treating Parkinson's disease, and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, and whereby the carbidopa and levodopa are available for immediate and sustained therapeytic action upon administration.
- 6. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5 wherein the dosage form comprises a sustained release core portion of carbidopa and levodopa overcoated by an immediate release layer of carbidopa and levodopa.
- 7. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5 wherein the dosage form comprises a multilayer tablet comprising at least one layer of sustained release carbidopa-levodopa adjacent to at least one layer of immediate release carbidopa-levodopa.



The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 8 wherein the dosage form comprises a sustained release core portion of carbidopa-levodopa overcoated by an immediate release layer of carbidopa-levodopa.

The pharmaceutical layer of Claim 8 wherein the dosage form comprises a multilayer tablet of at least one layer of sustained release carbidopa-levodopa adjacent to at least one layer of immediate release carbidopa-levodopa.